

INFORMATION SHEET

ORDER NO. R5-2009-
GEORGE REED, INC.
MUNN & PERKINS AGGREGATE PROCESSING FACILITY
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

George Reed Inc. owns and operates an aggregate mine and processing facility at 26292 East River Road in Escalon. The facility is located along the Stanislaus River and is separated from the river by a levee, which provides protection from 100-year floodwaters. The Discharger mines sand and gravel from nearby pits that are owned by others, as well as a small amount of material located at the processing facility.

Mining is performed above the water table. Ore is trucked to the processing facility. The aggregate is screened to separate coarse and fine aggregates. Cobbles are either stockpiled for sale or crushed and combined with the screened material for further processing. After the material is further classified according to grain size, the various products may be washed again.

Wastewater generated in the processing activities as well as stormwater that falls on the facility, is discharged to a series of settling ponds. On average, approximately 1.06 million gallons per day (Mgpd) are discharged, with peak wastewater discharge of 2.2 Mgpd. Flocculant is not used in wastewater to improve settling, if the Discharger plans to use a metallic flocculant, authorization from the Executive Officer is required.

As mining progresses across the site, any former pit may be used as a settling pond. As wastewater is discharged to the pond, the pit fills with fine-grained material. Wastewater may be recycled for use as wash water; however, most processing water comes from groundwater extraction wells.

The Discharger submitted a water balance for the facility that demonstrated adequate capacity for proposed wastewater discharge. Minimum freeboard requirements on the settling pond system should be sufficient to protect water quality.

Based on information collected from on-site supply wells, groundwater exists approximately 22-25 feet below the ground surface. The groundwater flow direction is unknown but is likely dependant on the river stage, percolation from the wastewater ponds, and the amount of groundwater extracted for aggregate washing.

This Order requires the wastewater pond water quality be monitored monthly and quarterly. If the wastewater quality changes in the future, staff can request additional information, such as installation of groundwater monitoring wells and a formal evaluation of groundwater quality. If the evaluation is needed, potential beneficial use impacts and/or additional best practicable treatment and control measures can be required as appropriate to ensure compliance with State Board Resolution No. 68-16.